

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT L 00560 251501Z
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EUR-08 SP-02
PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NEA-07 ACDA-10 /059 W
-----251513Z 039495 /46

R 251236Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6731
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0560

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT MP PFOR UR XO LY
SUBJECT: RAMGOOLAM CONCERNED OVER SOVIET SUPPORT FOR
MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT

1. DURING CALL ON HIM BY CONSULAR OFFICER AND MYSELF
MAY 25, PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM DISCUSSED SOVIET ACTIVITIES
AND INTENTIONS IN MAURITIUS AND INDIAN OCEAN AREA. IN
HIS VIEW SOVIETS ARE NOW "CONCENTRATING" ON BUILDING
STRENGTH IN INDIAN OCEAN AREA, AFTER HAVING FAILED IN
MEDITERRANEAN. THEY ARE WORKING HARD ON MAURITIUS AND
SEYCHELLES, HAVING ALREADY ESTABLISHED A POSITION OF
STRENGTH IN MADAGASCAR FOLLOWING OVERTHROW OF TSIRANANA.

2. RAMGOOLAM BELIEVES THE SOVIETS VETOED HIS PLAN TO
ABSORB THE MARXIST-ORIENTED PARTY, THE MAURITIAN MILITANT
MOVEMENT (MMM), INTO HIS LABOR PARTY PRIOR TO LAST
DECEMBER'S ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. RAM'S IDEA WAS TO "TAME"
THE MMM BY FORMING AN ALLIANCE WITH IT, AND THROUGH FINANCE
MINISTER RINGADOO HE HAD OFFERED THE MMM 40 PERCENT OF
THE ASSEMBLY SEATS, WITH 60 PERCENT RESERVED FOR LABOR.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT L 00560 251501Z

THE NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN WHEN THE MMM INSISTED ON 50
PERCENT AND RAM THINKS THEY WERE CARRYING OUT THE ORDERS
OF THE SOVIETS, WHO HOPED THE MMM COULD WIN THE ELECTIONS
OUTRIGHT. HE FLATLY ACCUSED THE SOVIETS OF FINANCING THE
MMM LAST DECEMBER AND AGAIN IN THE APRIL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

3. RAM SAID THE MMM IS NOW EXPERIENCING INTERNAL

DIFFICULTIES (FOLLOWING THE DEFECTION TO LABOR OF DEPUTY SURESH MOORBA) AND THEY MAY GROW WORSE. "WE'RE WORKING TO INCREASE THEIR DIFFICULTIES," HE SAID. THE PRIME MINISTER RULED OUT EARLY ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, SAYING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS TO WORK TO IMPROVE ITS POSITION BEFORE GOING TO THE VOTERS AGAIN. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE NEED TO WORK ON THE CREOLES IN THE TOWNS WHICH WERE LOST IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, AND ALSO THE NEED TO CONVINCE THE MUSLIMS THAT THE MMM IS NOT GOING TO HELP THEM IN THE LONG RUN. IN RAM'S VIEW THE MMM DEPUTIES "CUT A SORRY FIGURE" IN THE ASSEMBLY, BUT THEY DO HAVE STRENGTH IN THE TRADE UNIONS AND "THAT IS WHAT'S DANGEROUS."

4. PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID HE BELIEVES LIBYA SUPPORTS THE MMM FINANCIALLY. THOUGH HE LACKS DIRECT EVIDENCE HE THINKS SUCH SUPPORT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH LIBYAN GOVERNMENT POLICY ELSEWHERE OF SUPPORTING RADICAL MOVEMENTS THAT OPPOSE PRO-WESTERN PARTIES.

5. RAM REMARKED THAT HIS SECURITY SERVICE DOES NOT PROVIDE HIM WITH ADEQUATE INTELLIGENCE ON SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN MAURITIUS.
KEELEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, INFILTRATION, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTL00560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770186-1161
Format: TEL
From: PORT LOUIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770519/aaaaaqid.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c853498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2373413
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RAMGOOLAM CONCERNED OVER SOVIET SUPPORT FOR MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, MP, UR, XO, LY, MMM, (RAMGOOLAM, SEEWOOSAGUR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c853498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009